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Time to Do Nothing

"Do it now" mottoes on desks may be all right, if properly interpreted, but there are times when the wise man takes no action at all. Some problems call for patient waiting, and not for immediate action. The experience of the oldest inhabitant of an Arizona town makes this clear.

"One time," he said, "I was lying asleep under a mesquite bush when I felt a pressure on my chest. I opened my eyes; on my chest, looking at me with his evil little eyes, was a rattlesnake. If I'd made a move, he'd have struck faster than I could see."

"But what did you do?" asked a young lady.

"Nothing I could do," he said, "so I just went back to sleep."

—Net Results